

C1010

Attachment H

COVER SHEET (PAGE 1 of 2)

May 1998 CALFED ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROPOSAL SOLICITATION

Proposal Title: Stone Lakes NWR Land Acquisitions
Applicant Name: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service/Sacramento Realty Office
Mailing Address: 2233 Watt Avenue, Suite 375, Sacramento, CA 95825-0509
Telephone: 916/979-2085
Fax: 916/979-2092

Amount of funding requested: \$ 3,436,500 for 1 years

Indicate the Topic for which you are applying (check only one box). Note that this is an important decision: see page ___ of the Proposal Solicitation Package for more information.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fish Passage Assessment | <input type="checkbox"/> Fish Passage Improvements |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Floodplain and Habitat Restoration | <input type="checkbox"/> Gravel Restoration |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fish Harvest | <input type="checkbox"/> Species Life History Studies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Watershed Planning/Implementation | <input type="checkbox"/> Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fish Screen Evaluations - Alternatives and Biological Priorities | |

Indicate the geographic area of your proposal (check only one box):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sacramento River Mainstem | <input type="checkbox"/> Sacramento Tributary: _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Delta | <input type="checkbox"/> East Side Delta Tributary: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Suisun Marsh and Bay | <input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin Tributary: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin River Mainstem | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape (entire Bay-Delta watershed) | <input type="checkbox"/> North Bay: _____ |

Indicate the primary species which the proposal addresses (check no more than two boxes):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin and East-side Delta tributaries fall-run chinook salmon | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Winter-run chinook salmon | <input type="checkbox"/> Spring-run chinook salmon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Late-fall run chinook salmon | <input type="checkbox"/> Fall-run chinook salmon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delta smelt | <input type="checkbox"/> Longfin smelt |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Splittail | <input type="checkbox"/> Steelhead trout |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Green sturgeon | <input type="checkbox"/> Striped bass |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Migratory birds | |

COVER SHEET (PAGE 2 of 2)

May 1998 CALFED ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROPOSAL SOLICITATION

Indicate the type of applicant (check only one box):

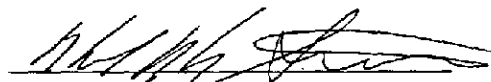
- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> State agency | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public/Non-profit joint venture | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-profit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local government/district | <input type="checkbox"/> Private party |
| <input type="checkbox"/> University | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Indicate the type of project (check only one box):

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Planning | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Implementation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring | <input type="checkbox"/> Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Research | |

By signing below, the applicant declares the following:

- (1) the truthfulness of all representations in their proposal;
- (2) the individual signing the form is entitled to submit the application on behalf of the applicant (if applicant is an entity or organization); and
- (3) the person submitting the application has read and understood the conflict of interest and confidentiality discussion in the PSP (Section II.K) and waives any and all rights to privacy and confidentiality of the proposal on behalf of the applicant, to the extent as provided in the Section.


(Signature of Applicant)

II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

a. **Project Title:** Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge Land Acquisition -- Acquisition of Two Key Properties within the Refuge Project Boundary

Applicant Name: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

b. **Project Description and Primary Biological/Ecological Objectives**

Project Description: This proposal requests \$3,436,500 to acquire fee title interest in two properties (*called Property #1 and Property #2 in this funding proposal*), totaling 658 acres located in the core of the Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) project boundary in Sacramento County. The owners of both properties are willing sellers who have requested appraisals by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Service) and are keen to work with the Service on fee title acquisition. Both properties offer outstanding potential for floodplain management and wildlife habitat restoration and enhancement. Each is adjacent to land that is already owned and managed by the Service as part of Stone Lakes NWR. The properties are strategically located within the Sacramento/San Joaquin River Delta and the Cosumnes/Mokelumne Rivers Basin. *These properties are extremely high priority acquisitions.* There is intense pressure to convert land in the Stone Lakes Basin to vineyards, which offer little habitat for wildlife. There is a high likelihood that these properties will be sold to others if the Service is not able to act quickly.

Primary Biological/Ecological Objectives: Acquisition of the two properties will contribute to Stone Lakes NWR goals by protecting, restoring, and expanding tidal and seasonal wetlands, lakes, riparian corridors, and upland habitats to benefit native fish, migratory birds, and numerous special-status plant and wildlife species, such as the Delta smelt, Sacramento splittail, valley elderberry longhorn beetle, giant garter snake, western pond turtle, bald eagle, and Swainson's hawk. It will prevent a potential conversion to vineyards (Property #1) and allow habitat restoration of existing vineyard land (Property #2). Restoring the historic configuration of South Stone Lake will expand the Beach/Stone Lakes Basin floodplain and increase flood storage capacity. These two strategically-located proposed acquisitions complement CALFED's mission of restoring ecological health in the northern reaches of the Delta. Each supports CALFED's objectives of providing good water quality for beneficial uses and improving/increasing aquatic and terrestrial habitats and improving ecological functions in the Bay-Delta.

c. **Approach/Tasks/Schedule**

Both landowners would like to sell fee title interest in their entire property in a single transaction. The amount requested in this proposal represents fair market value for the properties as supported by comparable sales data. Appraisals for the two properties should be completed by September; offers will be made to the landowners within 60 days. Once the Service and the owners reach an agreement, the Sacramento Realty Office staff anticipates that closure can be completed within 60 days of receiving a signed offer, or by early 1999.

d. **Justification for Project and Funding by CALFED**

Acquisition of these two properties can help improve the health of the Bay-Delta ecosystem and the Cosumnes/Mokelumne Rivers floodplain, will benefit several high risk species and habitats, and will yield broad ecosystem benefits. The properties offer restoration potential for many species at risk, including the Delta Smelt, Sacramento splittail, Swainson's hawk, bald eagle, American peregrine falcon, Aleutian Canada goose, giant garter snake, valley elderberry longhorn beetle, western pond turtle, California hibiscus, vernal pool species, such as the tadpole fairy shrimp, and many neotropical migratory songbirds. South Stone Lake, Snodgrass Slough, and

other perennial waters sources offer ideal reintroduction sites for Sacramento perch. Tidally-influenced areas currently support Delta smelt and Sacramento splittail and can be expanded.

e. Budget Costs and Third Party Impacts

The Service is requesting \$3,436,500 to fully acquire both properties. Anticipated third party impacts to the local tax base by withdrawal of these lands will be off-set by the Refuge Revenue Sharing Act; payments in lieu of taxes will be reimbursed to the communities annually.

f. Applicant Qualifications

Sacramento Realty Office: The Service currently manages over 670 square miles of habitat within the National Wildlife Refuge system in California. The Service has an ongoing land acquisition program for 16 refuges and wildlife management areas within the Central Valley and San Francisco Bay Delta. The Sacramento Realty Office's staff of eight, which has over 150 years of combined experience in appraisal and realty support, will coordinate the acquisition process.

Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) Staff: Following acquisition, the Stone Lakes NWR staff will coordinate restoration work with Ducks Unlimited, which has a long track record of habitat restoration projects. The Stone Lakes NWR staff currently manages nearly 1,000 acres of Service-owned land within the Refuge project area. The Refuge is also pursuing cooperative agreements with a number of State and local agencies for 5,200 acres of non-Service lands within the boundary. The Service has expended \$3.5 million of Federal, State, and private funds to acquire lands from four willing sellers and has obtained over \$1 million for the restoration, enhancement, and management of Refuge lands.

g. Monitoring and Data Evaluation

This project will be tracked through the Service's Sacramento Realty Office from initiation through purchase. Stone Lakes NWR will provide biological support for the acquisition process and oversee all restoration and management.

h. Local Support and cost sharing

The Stone Lakes NWR land protection program has won support from many legislators, public officials, agencies, non-profit organizations, businesses, and constituency groups. Funds for Refuge land acquisition projects are also being sought from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and other sources. Land transfers are pending from two state agencies.

Compatibility with CALFED objectives

This project is consistent with CALFED'S Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan objectives, complies with relevant laws and regulations, including NEPA/CEQA, will not prejudice CALFED's long term program, and involves only willing sellers.

Coordination with Other Programs

Acquisition and subsequent restoration of these two properties supports the goals and objectives of the Recovery Plan for Sacramento, San Joaquin Native Fishes, the Service's Central Valley San Francisco Bay Ecoregion Plan, Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture, USFWS Concept Plan for Waterfowl Wintering Habitat Preservation, Aleutian Canada Goose Recovery Plan, North American Waterfowl Management Plan, and the goals of Stone Lakes NWR.

III. TITLE PAGE

a. Title of Project: Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge Land Acquisition -- Purchase of Two Key Properties

b. Applicant Information

Howard K. Stark, Chief	Thomas E. Harvey, Project Leader
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Sacramento Realty Field Office	Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge
2233 Watt Avenue, Suite 375	2233 Watt Avenue, Suite 375
Sacramento, CA 95825	Sacramento, CA 95825
Phone: (916) 979-2085	Phone: (916) 979-2085
Fax: (916) 979-2092	Fax: (916) 979-2092

c. Type of Organization and Tax Status

Public--Federal Government, tax exempt

d. Tax Identification Number

Not applicable

e. Participants/Collaborators in Implementation

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Trust for Public Land
2233 Watt Avenue, Suite 375	116 New Montgomery, Third Floor
Sacramento, CA 95825	San Francisco, CA 94105
Phone: (916) 979-2085	Phone: (415) 495-5660
Fax: (916) 979-2092	Fax: (415) 495-0541
Contacts: Howard K. Stark, Realty Chief	Contact: Mike Reeves, Field Representative
Thomas E. Harvey, Project Leader	

Landowner/Property #1
Elk Grove, California

Landowner, Property #2
Elk Grove, California

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Sacramento Realty Office will be the lead contact for acquisition of the two properties. The Service is currently coordinating acquisition with the owners of each property. The Service is supported in this effort by the Trust for Public Land, which has agreed to assist by obtaining willing seller option agreements or purchasing and holding properties until sufficient funds are available for acquisition by the Service.

Upon acquisition, the Service will apply for restoration grants from a variety of sources, such as the North American Wetlands Conservation Council, Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Fund, Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act, Wildlife Conservation Board, Central Valley Project Improvement Act, the Packard Foundation, and others.

IV. Project Description

a. Project Description and Approach

Approach: This proposal requests \$3,436,500 to acquire two private properties totaling 658 acres located within the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta and the Cosumnes/Mokelumne Rivers floodplain. The landowners are willing sellers who have been coordinating with the Service's Sacramento Realty Office for several months. This office will coordinate all acquisition activities. Upon purchase, both properties will be restored and managed by the Service's Stone Lakes NWR.

Presently, the Service is appraising five properties within the Stone Lakes NWR project area. This request for funds is to acquire the two highest priority properties which are both located adjacent to South Stone Lake -- Property #1, located on Lambert Road, and Property #2, located on Hood-Franklin Road. These two properties clearly meet many of CALFED's objectives and funding guidelines; moreover, it is crucial that funding sources for these two properties be secured immediately. Both landowners are ready to sell. Property #1 is in imminent threat of being converted to vineyards, which offer little-to-no habitat value for wildlife. Property #2 is already a vineyard; it will remain so if sold to agricultural interests, but the grapes would be removed following acquisition by the Service. Other funding sources are being sought to purchase the remaining three properties.

Features of Property #1 -- \$1.9 million

Vital location: The farm is located in the heart of the Stone Lakes NWR project area, within the Delta and the Morrison Creek and Cosumnes/Mokelumne Rivers watersheds. It receives tidal influence from South Stone Lake, via Snodgrass Slough and the Sacramento Drainage Canal. It is located adjacent to a property already owned by the Service, the 305-acre Lodi Gun Club. It is also adjacent to the alignment of the proposed isolated water transfer facility being considered as an alternative of the CALFED Bay-Delta program.

Winter flooding: The area already floods frequently in the winter due to failure or overtopping of its levees, underscoring its potential restoration to tidal, permanent, and seasonal wetlands and riparian forest. Fostering and assisting these natural processes will promote restoration of the historical configuration of South Stone Lake. Wetland restoration efforts can also contribute to regional floodwater management in the Beach/Stone Lakes Basin.

Current use: This 555-acre farm supports irrigated pasture and row crops (corn, tomatoes, wheat). It includes an active duck club with several wetland management units.

Habitats: The farm presently supports tidal perennial emergent wetlands, open water, and riparian forest, including shaded riverine aquatic habitat, and grasslands. These existing habitats have excellent enhancement and restoration potential. The riparian forest habitat is already expanding eastward, a process that can be facilitated by breaching existing levees.

Water delivery systems in place: Water is readily available to enhance and restore habitats by using an existing water delivery system and water control structures.

Wildlife species: The area already supports resident and migratory wildlife, including many species at risk, such as the Delta smelt, Sacramento splittail, Sacramento perch, Swainson's hawk, bald eagle, American peregrine falcon, Aleutian Canada goose, giant garter snake, western pond turtle, valley elderberry longhorn beetle, California hibiscus, and neotropical migratory songbirds.

Known archeological site: The farm includes at least one known Native American archeological site, which was surveyed by the State of California in the 1970s. Acquisition of the property will protect this site. Local tribal representatives have already visited this site and been consulted by the Service.

Potential for environmental education and wildlife-related recreation: The 555-acre property includes a small duck club and is adjacent to the Service-owned Lodi Gun Club. Together, the two properties would cover nearly 900-acres, potentially large enough for wildlife-dependent recreation (hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, photography, and environmental education.)

Features of Property #2: \$1.4 million

Vital location: The farm is located in the heart of the Stone Lakes NWR project area, within the Delta and the Morrison Creek and Cosumnes/Mokelumne Rivers floodplains. It receives tidal influence from South Stone Lake, via Snodgrass Slough and the Sacramento Drainage Canal. It is located adjacent to the 220-acre Agriversified property currently owned by the Refuge; the resulting 323-acre management unit would have outstanding restoration potential. It is also strategically located adjacent to the 1,567-acre North Stone Lake property, which the Service is negotiating to manage with the Sacramento County Department of Parks and Recreation.

Winter flooding: The property commonly floods in the winter due to overtopping of its levees, underscoring the potential to enhance and restore wetlands. Fostering and assisting these natural processes will promote restoration of the historical configuration of South Stone Lake. Wetland restoration efforts can also assist with regional floodwater management objectives.

Current use: This 103-acre farm is vineyard land with many improvements. The Service intends to remove the vines over a ten-year period, upon acquisition. If the Service is unable to acquire this property, it will undoubtedly be sold to another vineyard operation.

Habitats: In addition to the vineyard, the property supports tidal emergent perennial wetlands, open water, and a riparian corridor, including shaded riverine aquatic habitat. The entire property has excellent enhancement and restoration potential for seasonal wetlands, riparian forest, and grasslands.

Water delivery systems in place: Water is readily available to enhance and restore habitats through an existing water delivery system and water control structures.

Wildlife species: The surrounding area already supports resident and migratory wildlife, including many species at risk, such as the Sacramento splittail, Swainson's hawk, giant garter snake, valley elderberry longhorn beetle, western pond turtle, California hibiscus, and many neotropical migratory songbirds.

Potential to offer environmental education: The property includes a residence and office that could be readily converted into an environmental education center. The Refuge currently has no public use facilities, so the availability of a facility to use for environmental education programs, directly across the street from the North Stone Lake property, would be an additional asset.

b. Proposed Scope of Work: Property #1

<i>Phase</i>	<i>Schedule for Completion</i>	<i>Estimated Budget</i>
Initial contact with landowner	Completed	
Appraisal completed	August 1998	\$11,000
Appraisal approved by federal standards	September 1998	
Option for purchase agreement	October 1998	
Title search	October 1998	\$4,000
Survey of property	October 1998	\$25,000
Escrow and closing	December 1998	[see title search]
Recording of deed	December 1998	[see title search]
Purchase of property	December 1998	\$1,900,000

*Many of these actions will occur concurrently; therefore the actual timespan for completing the

acquisition should take less than six months.

Are any of the aforementioned tasks separable? No. The landowner wants full acquisition.

b. Proposed Scope of Work: Property #2

<i>Phase</i>	<i>Schedule for Completion</i>	<i>Estimated Budget</i>
Initial contact with landowner	Completed	
Appraisal completed	September 1998	\$9,750
Appraisal approved by federal standards	October 1998	
Option for purchase agreement	November 1998	
Title search	November 1998	\$3,250
Survey of property	November 1998	\$25,000
Escrow and closing	January 1999	[see title search]
Recording of deed	January 1999	[see title search]
Purchase of property	January 1999	\$1,400,000

*Many of these actions will occur concurrently; therefore the actual timespan for completing the acquisition should take less than six months.

Are any of the aforementioned tasks separable? No. The landowner wants full acquisition.

c. Location and/or Geographic Boundaries of Project

Property #1: The 555-acre property is in the community of Elk Grove. It is located west of Interstate 5, north of and bordered by Lambert Road, on the southeastern shore of South Stone Lake. It is within the refuge project boundary and adjacent to the 305-acre Lodi Gun Club, which is owned by Stone Lakes NWR. (See map/Appendix A).

The legal description for the property is: T.6 N., R.4 E., Secs 35 & 36 M.D.B. & M.
/NE 1/4 Sec 35.

Property #2: The 103-acre property is in the community of Elk Grove. It is located west of Interstate 5, south of and bordered by Hood-Franklin Road, and east of the SP Railroad. It borders the 202-acre Agriversified property, which is owned by the Service, and is directly across the street from the 2,600-acre North Stone Lake property, which is owned by the Sacramento County Department of Parks and Recreation, and is located within the Refuge project boundary. (See map/Appendix A).

The legal description for the property is: Parcel 1 and Parcel 2 of that certain parcel map entitled "Portion of Section 13, Township 6 North, Range 4 East, M.D.M."

d. Expected Benefits

Description of Stressor: Physical Isolation of Floodplain or Marshplain [due to levee construction]

Expected benefits: Acquisition of properties will allow for restoration involving the strategic placement of water control structures and breaches through existing levees to restore tidal and seasonal wetlands and riparian forest in the historic floodplain of South Stone Lake. Restored wetlands would encompass approximately 50-70 percent of the properties (329-460 acres); about 30 percent would be tidally-influenced. In addition to seasonal wetlands, restored habitats will

include mudflats, riparian forests and transition to perennial grasslands on upland areas. These habitats will provide nesting and foraging habitat for a variety of shorebirds, waterfowl, Aleutian Canada geese, sandhill cranes, Swainson's hawks, and many neotropical migrants. Riparian restorations would also improve habitat for aquatic species, such as Delta smelt and Sacramento splittail.

2. Channel Form Changes

Description of Stressor: Loss of Existing Riparian Zone or Lack of Regeneration Potential [along South Stone Lakes and the arms of the lake.]

Expected benefits: Acquisition will protect existing riparian areas and allow for the restoration of riparian habitats along the existing levees and the expanded shoreline of South Stone Lake. Seasonal wetland restoration efforts will result in increased food and cover for native fish and wildlife and nesting cover for a variety of migratory and resident species.

Secondary benefits: Riparian systems act as water filters in the floodplain and provide groundwater recharge, bank stabilization, water pollution purification and erosion control.

3. Land Use

Description of Stressor: Urbanization [of watershed draining to South Stone Lake.]

Expected benefits: Acquisition by the Service and restoration of seasonal wetlands and perennial grasslands would preclude any future conversion to more intensive urban use, agriculture, or other negative land use changes along South Stone Lake.

Description of Stressor: Forestry and Agricultural Practices [that lead to conversion of floodplain to agricultural use.]

Expected benefits: Acquisition of Property #1 and restoration of permanent and seasonal wetlands and perennial grasslands will improve wetland habitat diversity and water quality in South Stone Lake, with increases in shaded riverine aquatic habitat (SRA). It will also provide nesting and foraging habitat for a variety of wildlife, specifically shorebirds, waterfowl, raptors, and neotropical migrants. Acquisition would prevent conversion to grape vineyards.

Acquisition of Property #2 would allow for restoration of a variety of wetlands, associated uplands, and SRA. The restoration effort would act as a showcase for the restoration of a vineyard back to seasonal wetlands, riparian habitat, and grasslands.

Potential Benefits to Third Parties

Local communities would benefit from the increased opportunities for wildlife-dependent recreation and environmental education. Restoration of wetlands and other aquatic habitats in and around South Stone Lake will improve overall habitat conditions and ecological functions of the Delta. The project, as part of the Stone Lakes NWR, will serve as a model for restoration efforts and offer numerous public outreach opportunities.

Both properties offer outstanding opportunities for environmental education and wildlife-dependent recreation. Both are adjacent to properties currently owned by the Refuge, which will substantially increased both the educational and recreational potential of all of the properties. Property #2 includes a large ranch house and office that could be readily converted to an environmental education center; this will fill a pressing need as, at the present time, the Refuge has no public facilities whatsoever and may not have any type of indoor public facilities for many years.

Priority Habitats

- Tidal perennial aquatic (freshwater) habitat, will comprise 30 percent of restored wetlands
- Seasonal wetland and aquatic habitat
- Shaded riverine aquatic habitat
- North Delta agricultural wetlands and perennial grasslands

Priority Species

Primary

- **Delta smelt** (first tier) and **Sacramento splittail** (second tier) will benefit from aquatic habitat restoration efforts in South Stone Lake and environs.

Secondary

- **Migratory birds** within the waterfowl, shorebird, wading-bird, neotropical, and raptor guilds. Wetland restorations will provide both migratory, wintering and breeding habitat for a variety of migratory birds. Riparian restorations will provide habitat for neotropical migrants, as well as raptors, such as the bald eagle and Swainson's hawk.

e. Background and Ecological/Biological/Technical Justification

Need for Project: These properties lie at the heart of the Stone Lakes NWR project area; they are critical acquisitions because they include much of South Stone Lake (Property #1) and an arm of the lake (Property #2). Acquisition will allow the Service to meet Refuge goals and CALFED objectives by protecting, restoring and expanding South Stone Lake and the associated tidal and seasonal wetlands, riparian corridors and perennial grasslands. This will restore the historical configuration of South Stone Lake and increase flood storage capacity. Acquisition will prevent conversion to vineyards (Property #1) and allow restoration of an existing vineyard (Property #2). Similar approaches to achieve comparable results could include purchase of conservation easements or fee title by another state, federal or private organization for protection. But these approaches would not afford the same level of protection and potential for restoration and long term management as if the properties became part of a National Wildlife Refuge.

Project meets ERPP objectives:

Ecological Process Visions/Central Valley Stream Temperatures: *Maintain, improve, and restore water temperature regimes to meet the life-history needs of aquatic organisms.* Page 47.

Habitat Visions/Seasonal Wetlands: *Restore and manage...and provide high-quality foraging and resting habitat for wintering waterfowl...and shorebirds.* Page 102

Habitat Visions/Riparian and Riverine Aquatic Habitats: *Restore riparian scrub, woodland and forest habitat [along South Stone Lake]...Restored riparian habitat would provide shaded riverine aquatic cover for fish species...and other wildlife [in South Stone Lake].* Page 106

Species and Species Group Visions/Species Type: *Delta Smelt (P. 133), Splittail (P. 142), Resident Fish Species (P. 170), Bay-Delta Aquatic Foodweb Organisms (P. 178), Giant Garter Snake and Western Pond Turtle (P. 227), Swainson's Hawk (P. 230), Shorebird and wading bird Guild (P. 255), Neotropical Migratory Bird Guild (P. 264), Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle (P. 266).*

Vision for Reducing or Eliminating Stressor/Levees, Bridges, and Bank Protection: *[Restoration following acquisition will]... reactivate... processes...to maintain hydrologic connectivity with floodplain.* (Page 281).

This project supports the objectives of the CVPIA in that it seeks to protect and restore fish and wildlife habitat in the Delta. Protection and eventual restoration of these properties will

contribute to the long term restoration of the Delta ecosystem as part of Stone Lakes NWR. Further, the purchase will protect South Stone Lake, allow for the entire lake to be managed as a unit, be restored to its historic configuration, and provide expanded and more reliable aquatic habitat for fish and wildlife. The current status of the project is that the Service is working on appraisals and coordinating closely with both landowners on appraisals of their properties.

f. Monitoring and Data Evaluation

The Service tracks all acquisitions proposals through an automated data base, the Land Acquisition Priority System (LAPS). It will be tracked by the Sacramento Realty Office through all phases of the acquisition. Refuge staff will coordinate and monitor management and restoration of the properties.

g. Implementability

Willing sellers: Properties #1 and 2 are each owned by willing sellers who wish to work with the Service on acquisition.

Favorable change in land use: The proposed acquisition and subsequent restorations will represent a favorable change in land use that can improve fisheries and wetlands habitat, improve water quality and help correct flooding problems in the Cosumnes/Mokelumne River floodplains, Morrison Creek drainage, and the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta.

Compliance with laws and regulations: For acquisition of the property, the Service will follow standard procedures for acquisition and comply with the "Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions". The Service shall be responsible for all acquisition costs including appraisal costs, and reasonable and customary transfer costs. For the restoration, the Service will cooperate with Ducks Unlimited, and other Federal, State, and private partners in the design and implementation of the project. Habitat restoration and enhancement may require preparation of the following documents and permits: NEPA and CEQA documentation; Clean Water Act/Section 404 permit; Endangered Species Act/Section 7 consultation; Streambed alteration permits; National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106) compliance; and Regional Water Quality Control Board Certification.

Coordination with other projects: The Service is pursuing several cooperative management efforts for projects within the Stone Lakes NWR project boundary that require close coordination with other Federal, State and local agencies. The Service is currently working with the following agencies to coordinate activities on and near the Refuge: Cosumnes River Preserve, The Nature Conservancy, Sacramento County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Open Space, Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District, Sacramento County Parks, Recreation, and Open Space, California Department of Parks and Recreation, California Department of Transportation, and the California Department of Water Resources. These acquisitions and subsequent restorations will also contribute to the goals of many Federal, State, and local programs and plans. They will also support and enhance ongoing community public outreach and environmental education programs.

Local support and outreach: The following agencies and organizations, which are located in Sacramento or have field representatives in the area, support the Service's land protection program at Stone Lakes NWR: Cosumnes River Preserve, Sacramento Open Space, Elk Grove School District, Elk Grove Community Services District, Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge

Association, California Waterfowl Association, Ducks Unlimited, National Audubon Society/California Office, The Nature Conservancy, The Trust for Public Land, The Resources Agency, California Department of Parks and Recreation, California Department of Fish and Game, California Department of Transportation, California Department of Water Resources, The Resources Agency, Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture, Riparian Habitat Joint Venture, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. The two landowners are willing sellers. Please note the letters of support in Appendix B.

V. Costs and Schedule to Implement Proposed Project

a. Budget Costs: \$4,436,500

Property description	Direct labor costs	Appraisals title policy	Direct salary & benefits	Survey	Relocation costs	Total realty costs	Estimated land purchase price (Excluding realty costs)
Property #1 Full purchase \$1.9 million	\$500	\$15,000	\$2,500	\$25,000	\$2,500	\$45,500	\$1,900,000
Property #2 Full purchase \$1.4 million	\$500	\$13,000	\$2,500	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$91,000	\$1,400,000
Subtotal	\$1000	\$28,000	\$5,000	\$50,000	\$52,500	\$136,500	\$3,300,000

Total project cost = Total Realty Costs + Est. Land Purchase Cost: \$3,436,500

*Please note: This cost structure is based on \$3,436,500 -- an estimate of current property values and realty costs. The actual sale price may need to be adjusted following completion of the appraisals and option to purchase agreements.

Basis for CALFED funding: These acquisitions are located in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and the Cosumnes/Mokelumne Rivers floodplain. Protection of this habitat through acquisition will meet several CALFED objectives and is consistent with CALFED's ERPP for several species. Acquisition of these properties will provide ideal shallow, tidal habitat for Delta smelt and Sacramento splittail -- values that can be enhanced through restoration. South Stone Lake, Snodgrass Slough, and other perennial water sources can offer potential reintroduction sites for Sacramento perch. Both properties also offer existing wetland, riparian forest, and grassland habitats vital to migratory birds. These benefits can be considerably expanded with enhancement and restoration efforts.

Fund availability and cost sharing: The two properties described in this application represent two of five properties that willing sellers wish to sell to the Service within the Stone Lakes NWR project area. The Service estimates it will cost nearly \$6 million to acquire all five properties. In recent years, the Refuge has not been successful in receiving Congressionally appropriated funds to assist with acquisition. The Refuge staff is preparing funding requests for other grant-giving organizations and agencies to assist with acquisition of all five properties; a request will be filed with the Packard Foundation soon. It is imperative that funds be secured immediately for these acquisitions, as all five landowners have expressed their wish to sell soon. This application

focuses on the two properties which are most vital to acquire and which also clearly support CALFED's mission.

It should be noted that within the coming months, fee title interest in two other properties will be transferred to the Refuge by the California Department of Transportation (150 acres-Beach Lake Mitigation Bank) and the California Department of Parks and Recreation (1,224 acres-North Stone Lake). The value of these lands should more than serve as a matching contribution for this CALFED refuge land acquisition funding request.

b. Schedule Milestones

There is probably a one month difference between the properties in terms of their relative position in the acquisition process. The milestones for each are the same, when considered from the point of view of long-term milestones. These milestones are the same as those as the "Scope of Work," described in Section IVb.

c. Third Party Impacts

The Service works only with willing sellers and the public was provided numerous opportunities to provide input during the development of the final EIS for creation of the Stone Lakes NWR. Anticipated third party impacts to the local tax base by withdrawal of private lands would be offset through the Refuge Revenue Sharing Act and appropriate payment in lieu of taxes would be reimbursed to the communities annually.

VI. Applicant Qualifications

Sacramento Realty Office: The Service currently manages over 670 square miles of habitat within the National Wildlife Refuge system in California. The Service has an ongoing land acquisition program that covers 16 refuges and wildlife management areas within the Central Valley and San Francisco Bay Area. The Sacramento Realty Office's staff of eight has over 150 years of combined experience in the areas of realty, appraisal, and environmental protection. The Sacramento Realty Office, led by Chief Howard K. Stark, will coordinate acquisition of these properties.

Biosketch: Mr. Howard K. Stark

- Multi-disciplinary qualifications as Supervisory Realty Specialist, Appraiser, Facilities Master Plans Officer, Environmental Planner.
- Over 10 years of broad-based management experience in real estate, land use planning, and environmental compliance fields with four federal agencies.
- Track record of success in managing complex projects involving high expenditures of public funds on controversial programs.
- Adept in applying negotiation skills and problem solving techniques to resolve conflicts and to achieve optimum program success.
- Initiated the \$12 billion Santa Anna River Flood Control Project and managed the \$6 million annual military recruiting station leasing program in Southern California as the Land Acquisition manager for the Army Corps of Engineers.
- Currently manages a Federal land acquisition program ranging from \$7-\$40 million annually with a \$672,000 annual operating budget. The office has responsibility for the Service's realty program in the Central Valley and San Francisco Bay Area. In fiscal years 96/97 the office acquired 21.38 square miles of habitat in fee and conservation easements within California.

Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge Staff: Once these properties are acquired, the Stone Lakes NWR staff will coordinate restoration work with Ducks Unlimited, which has a long-established track record in accomplishing restoration projects. The staff, led by Project Leader Thomas E. Harvey, is currently managing nearly 1,000 acres of Service-owned land within the Refuge project area.

The Refuge is also pursuing cooperative agreements with a number of State and local agencies for cooperative management of 5,200 acres of non-Service lands within the boundary. To date, the Service has expended a total of \$3.5 million of Federal, State, and private funds to acquire lands from four willing sellers and has obtained over \$1 million for the restoration, enhancement, and management of 1,300 acres on the Refuge.

The Service is uniquely qualified to identify, acquire and manage these lands in perpetuity. Certain portions of the work may be contracted, depending upon priorities and existing work loads. There are no known conflicts of interest with parties involved in this project.

Biosketch: Mr. Thomas E. Harvey

- Has 16 years of experience with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- Served in the capacities of refuge manager and/or biologist at three National Wildlife Refuges: Don Edwards San Francisco Bay NWR, Hawaiian and Pacific Islands NWR, and Stone Lakes NWR.
- Has played a key role at Stone Lakes NWR in the acquisition and restoration of a number of vital refuge properties and has helped direct the development of innovative partnerships with local, State, and Federal agencies, and private organizations.
- Served for three years with the Service's Sacramento Ecological Services Field Office, where he gained first-hand knowledge of numerous issues affecting the biological resources of the Central Valley and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.
- Has working expertise with the procedures and challenges involved in planning new refuge units, protecting significant acreages of land through acquisition, and performing management and habitat improvements on newly-acquired properties.

Trust for Public Land (TPL): This national, non-profit conservation organization has assisted landowners, public agencies, land trusts, and others with the acquisition of thousands of acres of land to protect habitat and open space for more than 25 years. TPL will assist in this project by: 1) purchasing willing seller option agreements or 2) purchasing and holding properties until sufficient funding is available for its acquisition by the Service. It will also help by pursuing other sources of funding to leverage a grant received from CALFED. Through these services, TPL will provide in-kind contributions, including costs related to the land acquisition transactions and staff time. The Service is being assisted by Mr. Mike Reeves, Field Representative, who has completed several land conservation transactions as part of TPL's Rivers Program.

VII. Compliance with Standard Terms and Conditions

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as federal agency acting as a representative of the public, agrees to adhere to all standard terms and conditions identified and applicable to the type of project (real estate transaction) being proposed.

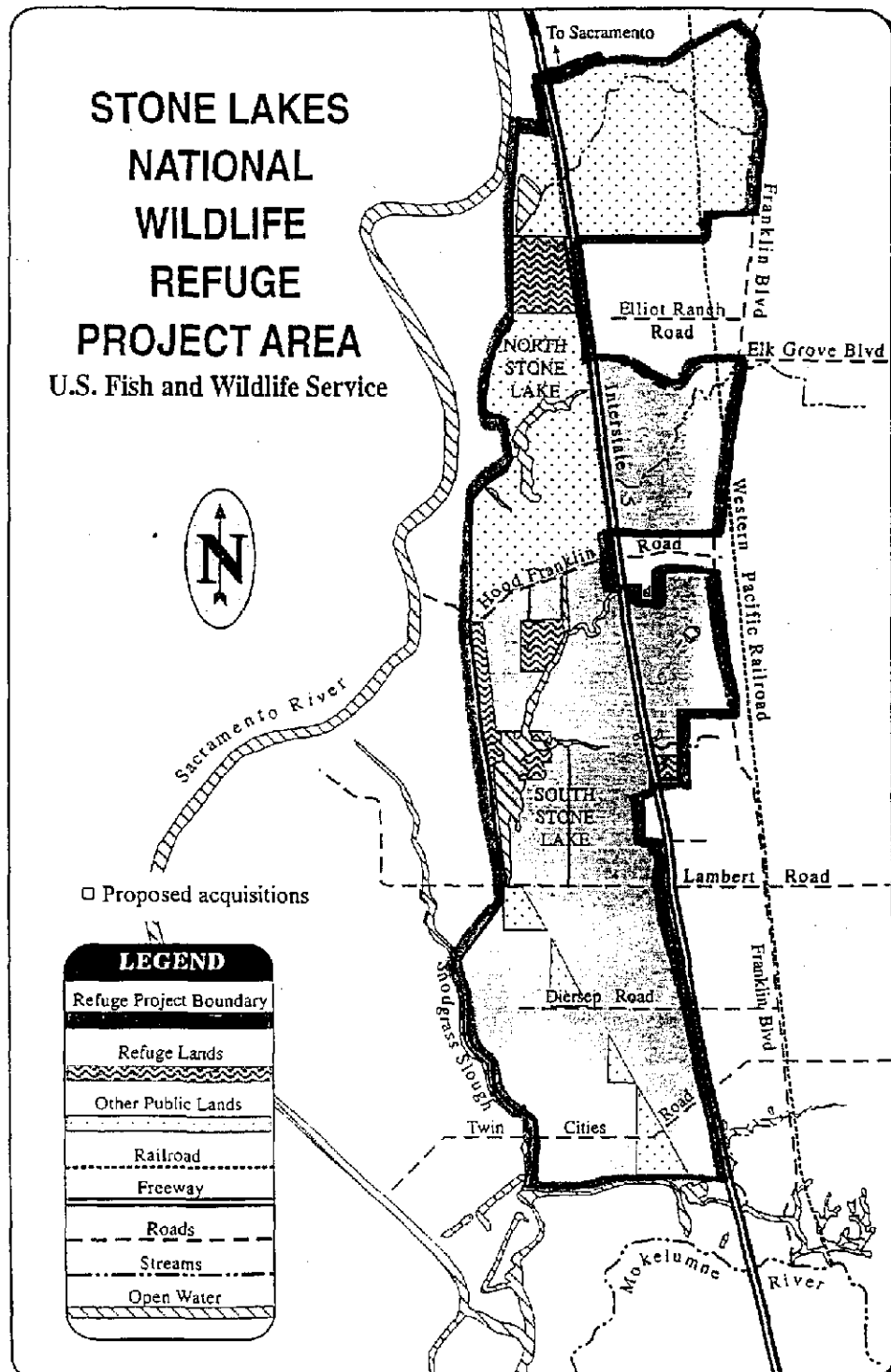
STONE LAKES NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE PROJECT AREA U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



□ Proposed acquisitions

LEGEND	
	Refuge Project Boundary
	Refuge Lands
	Other Public Lands
	Railroad
	Freeway
	Roads
	Streams
	Open Water

1 - 0 0 8 8 9 7



Appendix B: Letters of Support

Attached please find letters of support from the following organizations:

Ducks Unlimited/Western Regional Office
The Trust for Public Land
National Audubon Society/California Office
Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture
Riparian Habitat Joint Venture
Sacramento Open Space
Sacramento Valley Open Space Conservancy



DUCKS
UNLIMITED
INC.

DUCKS UNLIMITED, INC.
WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE

3074 Gold Canal Drive
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6116
(916) 852-2000
(916) 852-2200 Fax

June 24, 1998

Cindy Darling, Restoration Coordinator
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1155
Sacramento CA 95814

Re: Stone Lakes NWR

Dear Ms. Darling:

Stone Lakes NWR is a new refuge near Sacramento that will protect a variety of existing habitats, including lakes, permanent and seasonal wetlands, riparian forests, vernal pools, and grasslands. Funding for acquisition of properties adjacent to parcels owned by the refuge will substantially extend the value of habitat restoration projects and floodplain benefits in the area in addition to expanding existing environmental education programs. Without these funds, the Refuge risks losing the properties to other agricultural interests.

Ducks Unlimited, Inc. has been an active partner in the restoration of the Stone Lakes NWR and lends its full support to this proposed project and the necessary funding.

Sincerely,

Holly Hopkins Andree, Director
State & Federal Coordination

HHA:lbj

cc: Tom Harvey



Conserving Land
for People

June 26, 1998

Mr. Lester Snow
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Snow:

The Trust for Public Land (TPL) supports the request for funding submitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to the CALFED Bay-Delta Program for the acquisition of floodplain habitat lands within the Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge. TPL is working in collaboration with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to secure critical properties for the protection of habitat and inclusion in the Refuge.

CALFED Bay-Delta funds will be used to acquire properties adjacent to other parcels already owned and managed by the Refuge, thus substantially extending the value of habitat restoration and floodplain benefits in the area. The Refuge is located within the Sacramento River-San Joaquin River Delta and the Cosumnes River floodplains. Habitat protection efforts within the Refuge area link and complement broader efforts to protect Central Valley Habitat within the Pacific Flyway.

The properties provide significant habitat for many special status species, including the Sacramento splittail, Sacramento perch, giant garter snake, valley elderberry longhorn beetle, Swainson's hawks, peregrine falcons, Aleutian Canada Geese, tadpole fairy shrimp, and many neotropical migrant species. The habitat lands to be acquired also experienced flooding during the January 1997 storms.

TPL will assist the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the acquisition of these properties by 1) purchasing option agreements or 2) buying and holding the properties until sufficient funds are available. TPL will also work to secure the additional public and private funding sources needed to complete the habitat protection goals of the Refuge and to leverage the CALFED Bay-Delta grant.'

The Trust for Public Land
Western Region
116 New Montgomery
Third Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105

(415) 495-5660

I - 0 0 8 9 0 0

I-008900

Mr. Lester Snow

Page 2

June 26, 1998

The properties are available from willing sellers for a limited time. Appraisals have been or are being completed at the landowners' request, and offers are pending. If funds are not available soon, the Refuge risks losing the properties to other agricultural interests, particularly vineyards.

We hope you will join us in supporting this critical conservation effort. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,



Reed Holdeman
Director, Western Region

cc: Cindy Darling, CALFED Bay-Delta Program



Conserving Land
for People

June 26, 1998

Ms. Cindy Darling
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Darling:

The Trust for Public Land (TPL) supports the request for funding submitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to the CALFED Bay-Delta Program for the acquisition of floodplain habitat lands within the Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge. TPL is working in collaboration with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to secure critical properties for the protection of habitat and inclusion in the Refuge.

CALFED Bay-Delta funds will be used to acquire properties adjacent to other parcels already owned and managed by the Refuge, thus substantially extending the value of habitat restoration and floodplain benefits in the area. The Refuge is located within the Sacramento River-San Joaquin River Delta and the Cosumnes River floodplains. Habitat protection efforts within the Refuge area link and complement broader efforts to protect Central Valley Habitat within the Pacific Flyway.

The properties provide significant habitat for many special status species, including the Sacramento splittail, Sacramento perch, giant garter snake, valley elderberry longhorn beetle, Swainson's hawks, peregrine falcons, Aleutian Canada Geese, tadpole fairy shrimp, and many neotropical migrant species. The habitat lands to be acquired also experienced flooding during the January 1997 storms.

TPL will assist the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the acquisition of these properties by 1) purchasing option agreements or 2) buying and holding the properties until sufficient funds are available. TPL will also work to secure the additional public and private funding sources needed to complete the habitat protection goals of the Refuge and to leverage the CALFED Bay-Delta grant.

The Trust for Public Land
Western Region
116 New Montgomery
Third Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105

Ms. Cindy Darling
Page 2
June 26, 1998

The properties are available from willing sellers for a limited time. Appraisals have been or are being completed at the landowners' request, and offers are pending. If funds are not available soon, the Refuge risks losing the properties to other agricultural interests, particularly vineyards.

We hope you will join us in supporting this critical conservation effort. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Reed Holderman
Director, Western Region

cc: Cindy Darling, CALFED Bay Delta Program



American
Farmland Trust
California Waterfowl
Association
Ducks Unlimited
National Audubon
Society
The Nature Conservancy
The Trust for Public Land

CENTRAL VALLEY HABITAT JOINT VENTURE

North American Waterfowl Management Plan

June 26, 1998

Ms. Cindy Darling
Restoration Coordinator
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Ms. Darling:

This letter is to acknowledge the Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture's strong support for the Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge's CALFED request for funds to help acquire properties within the Refuge project area. The proposal seeks approximately \$3.4 million to purchase two properties, totaling 658 acres, from willing landowners. These properties are located adjacent to other parcels owned by the Refuge and will substantially extend the value of habitat restoration projects and floodplain benefits in the area, yet they face the threat of acquisition by private individuals for farming purposes in the near future, if not protected immediately.

Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge, located within the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta and the Cosumnes/Mokelumne River floodplains, offers habitat for a number of special status species such as the Sacramento splittail, Aleutian Canada goose, California hibiscus, and Delta smelt. Habitat protection efforts within the Refuge project area link to and complement broader efforts of Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture partners to protect critical habitat for these and a myriad of other species within the Pacific Flyway.

In addition to habitat benefits, acquisition of the properties would allow expansion of existing environmental education programs. One of the properties includes a large ranch house that could readily be converted to an environmental education center. At present, the Refuge has no on-site facilities, and there is strong interest in expanding outdoor educational programming from the Elk Grove School District.

Acquisition of these properties would build on the Fish and Wildlife Service's proven track record at the Refuge, where strong partnerships produce tangible results. We urge you to give this proposal your highest consideration.

Sincerely,


Daniel Taylor
Chairman

cc: CVHJV Management Board
Tom Harvey, USFWS



Riparian Habitat Joint Venture
555 Audubon Place • Sacramento, California 95825
(916) 481-5577 • Fax (916) 481-4283

June 29, 1998

Cindy Darling, Restoration Coordinator
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Darling:

The Riparian Habitat Joint Venture (RHJV), a statewide cooperative partnership of Federal, State and conservation organizations whose common goal is to protect, enhance and restore riparian habitats for California's resident and migratory birds, respectfully requests your support through CALFED funding of the acquisition of 658 acres to enlarge Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge. Project proponents are working cooperatively with willing landowners. Thus, it is extremely important and timely to act now to conserve one of the finest remaining tracts of natural habitats in the greater Sacramento area.

The RHJV has set an ambitious restoration goal: to double existing riparian vegetation and enhance 25 percent of degraded habitat in the state over the next ten years through cooperation with private and public landowners. Riparian habitat acquisition from willing landowners at Stone Lakes NWR is integral to helping us meet this goal.

Riparian woodlands in the arid West are among the richest habitats for breeding and wintering bird species. In the spring and fall, these habitats provide crucial refueling stopoffs for migrating landbirds. In California, over 135 species of native birds are either completely dependent on riparian habitats or use them preferentially. Many of these species are already listed as threatened or endangered and include: Swainson's hawk, yellow-billed cuckoo, least Bell's vireo and willow flycatcher.

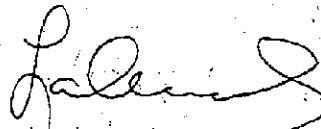
No ecosystem is more essential to the survival of the state's fish and wildlife resources. Western riparian ecosystems contain 42% of the mammals of North America, 38% of the reptiles, 14% of the breeding birds. Seventy-five species of fish are known from riparian habitats of the southwest (U.S. Council on Environmental Quality- 1978).

Ms. Cindy Darling
June 29, 1998
Page 2

The properties for which funds are being sought are adjacent to the existing Stone Lakes NWR boundary and thus, if acquired, will provide an extensive block of high quality habitat. The RHJV is particularly excited by this opportunity. Recent data from a number of regions suggest that many, if not most, populations of area-sensitive bird species that occur on minimally-sized habitat fragments, are not producing young at a rate that matches mortality. In the case of bird conservation, bigger (habitat blocks) is better.

Thank you for this opportunity to express our support for this important project. If you need more information, please do not hesitate to contact the RHJV at the letterhead address.

Sincerely,



Lynn Comrack, Coordinator
Riparian Habitat Joint Venture

National Audubon Society California



555 Audubon Place
Sacramento, CA 95825
(916) 481-5332
(916) 481-6228 fax

National Audubon Society
Chapters of California

June 29, 1998

Allacal
Buena Vista
Central Sierra
Conejo Valley
Eagle Lake
Eastern Sierra
El Dorado
Fresno
Golden Gate
Kern
Kerncrest
Laguna Hills
Lake Almanor
La Purisima
Los Angeles
Madrone
Marble Mountain
Mann
Mendocino Coast
Monterey Peninsula
Morro Coast
Mount Diablo
Mount Shasta Area
Napa-Solano
North Coast
Oklone
Palomar
Palo Verde/South Bay
Pasadena
Peregrine
Pinnas
Pomona Valley
Redbud
Redwood Region
Sacramento
San Bernardino Valley
San Diego
San Fernando Valley
San Joaquin
Santa Barbara
Santa Clara Valley
Santa Monica Bay
Sea and Sage
Sequoia
Sierra Foothills
South Coast
Stamelaus
Tulare County
Ventura
Whittier
Wine
Yolo
Yosemite Area

Cindy Darling, Restoration Coordinator
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Darling:

On behalf of Audubon's 65,000 members and 53 affiliated local chapters in California, I respectfully request that you support CalFed funding of \$3.4 million dollars for acquisition of 658 acres from willing sellers by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) at the Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). Your support for these acquisition projects would ensure protection of vital habitat for birds and other wildlife, and provide increased outdoor education opportunities for many urban Californians.

Because of its proximity to Sacramento, one of the largest metropolitan regions in California, Stone Lakes NWR can serve as a convenient outdoor education forum that will complement Audubon-California's efforts to provide nature education to the citizens of California. One of the properties which USFWS can acquire with CalFed funding would provide an ideal location for a community environmental education center; existing facilities at this site could readily be converted to an education center. Audubon-California has participated in every annual public education/community outreach event at the Refuge; public support for, and interest in, the Refuge continues to grow. We look forward to further partnering with the Refuge once a core area is acquired and then opened to the public on a year-round basis.

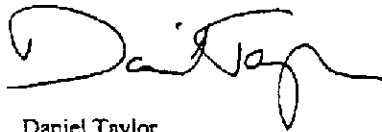
In addition, acquisition of the available properties represents a prime opportunity for restoration of critical wildlife habitat in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. Audubon-California is particularly excited about the potential for wetland, riparian forest, and grassland restoration projects on these properties. Restoration of these habitats would in turn benefit many special status bird species, including the Swainson's hawk, Aleutian Canada Goose, greater sandhill crane, and a host of neotropical migratory songbirds. Moreover, USFWS' Concept Plan for Waterfowl Wintering Habitat Preservation: Central Valley, California identifies these habitats as important areas threatened by urban encroachment and requiring preservation. Habitat protection efforts within Stone Lakes NWR are an integral part of the broad based public-private partnership working to protect critical Central Valley habitat within the Pacific Flyway.

California's economic recovery from the recent recession has been a blessing for our citizens, but it does present a challenge to habitat preservation and restoration.

efforts. Pressures to develop natural areas are increasing, and land values are rising accordingly. Audubon-California is concerned that we will lose valuable purchase opportunities within the Stone Lakes NWR project area if we do not act quickly. Consequently, we encourage you to support the Refuge's request for CalFed funding. Please do not hesitate to contact Audubon-California if we can be of any assistance to you as you consider this request.

Thank you for giving our concerns your attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel Taylor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping underline.

Daniel Taylor
Executive Director

SACRAMENTO OPEN SPACE



June 24, 1998

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Art White

Cindy Darling, Restoration Coordinator
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge CALFED Application

Dear Ms. Darling:


Sacramento Open Space (SOS) is a local nonprofit citizen volunteer organization which promotes the preservation of natural systems and wise use of open space for long term public benefit through education, volunteerism and advocacy. We actively support the Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge as a critical component of the ongoing efforts to protect, preserve and restore natural systems in the Sacramento region. We strongly encourage you to approve the Refuge's current application for CALFED funds, in the amount of \$3.1 million, to assist with the acquisition of properties from willing sellers within the Refuge project area.

As it develops, the Refuge will protect an increasing variety of existing valuable habitats which can support many special status species, as well as other lands with high restoration potential. The planned property acquisitions, which are adjacent to existing Refuge lands, will substantially increase the value of planned habitat restoration efforts and floodplain benefits in the area. Given the Refuge's location in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta and the Cosumnes/Mokelumne River floodplains, the Refuge's programs will also complement broader efforts to protect Central Valley habitat which is critical to the survival of the greater Bay-Delta ecosystem.

The Refuge's planned property acquisition will also allow for expansion of its existing environmental education programs, which is of keen interest to SOS, the Elk Grove Unified School District, the Elk Grove Community Services District and many others who work with the Refuge to help meet their education and recreation goals.

As these properties are currently owned by willing sellers, unless the Refuge is able to acquire them soon, they may be lost to other agricultural interests. Therefore, we urge you to place a high priority on granting the Refuge's request for funds.

Sincerely,


Chris Tooker
President

SACRAMENTO VALLEY OPEN SPACE CONSERVANCY

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Aimee Rutledge

VIA FAX (1 page)
June 23, 1998

Cindy Darling
CALFED-Bay-Delta Program Office
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support of Grant Funding Request for Stone Lakes Refuge Land Acquisition

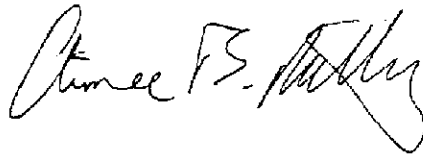
Dear Ms. Darling:

The Sacramento Valley Open Space Conservancy supports the \$3.1 million request for land acquisition within the Stone Lakes Refuge boundaries. The Stone Lakes Refuge is a significant resource in our region, and has the potential to house many more migratory birds and other species with additional land conservation.

The Sacramento Valley Open Space Conservancy (SVOSC) is a private, nonprofit, tax exempt organization which exists to facilitate the permanent protection and preservation of natural and agricultural open space lands in the Sacramento Valley.

The Conservancy was founded in 1992 on two basic principles—that open lands are necessary for quality of life and that we must care for the land today so future generations may enjoy its physical and spiritual benefits tomorrow.

Sincerely,



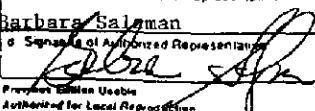
Aimee B. Rutledge

cc: Bob Slobe
Christina Anderson

Figure 1
Standard Form 424

**APPLICATION FOR
FEDERAL ASSISTANCE**

OMB Approval No. 0348-0043

1. TYPE OF SUBMISSION: Application <input type="checkbox"/> Preapplication <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Construction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Construction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Construction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Construction		2. DATE SUBMITTED 6/7/98	Applicant Identifier N/A
3. DATE RECEIVED BY STATE N/A		State Application Identifier N/A	
4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY		Federal Identifier	
5. APPLICANT INFORMATION			
Legal Name: Marin Audubon Society		Organizational Unit:	
Address (give city, county, state, and zip code): P.O. Box 599 Mill Valley, CA 94942		Name and telephone number of person to be contacted on matters involving this application (give area code): Barbara Salzman (415)924-6057 48 Ardmore Rd., Larkspur, CA 94939	
6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN): 94 - 6076664		7. TYPE OF APPLICANT: (enter appropriate letter in box) N	
8. TYPE OF APPLICATION: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Revision If Revision, enter appropriate letter(s) in box(es) A. Increase Award B. Decrease Award C. Increase Duration D. Decrease Duration Other (specify):		A. State H. Independent School Dist. B. County I. State Controlled Institution of Higher Learning C. Municipal J. Private University D. Township K. Indian Tribe E. Interstate L. Individual F. Intermunicipal M. Profit Organization G. Special District N. Other (Specify) <u>Non Profit</u>	
10. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER: TITLE: N/A		9. NAME OF FEDERAL AGENCY: US Fish and Wildlife Service	
12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):		11. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT: Prepare marsh and implement marsh restoration for 109 acres of diked bay-land and acquire the 109 acres plus 72 acres of existing tidal marsh and donate to California Dept. of Fish and Game	
13. PROPOSED PROJECT		14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF: Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey	
Start Date 6/98	Ending Date 11/99	a. Applicant Marin Audubon Society	
15. ESTIMATED FUNDING:		b. Project Petaluma Marsh Expansion Project- Marin Co.	
a. Federal	\$ 377,135 .00	15. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS? NO	
b. Applicant	\$ 22,000 .00	a. YES. THIS PREAPPLICATION/APPLICATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS FOR REVIEW ON:	
c. State	\$ 478,885 .00	DATE _____	
d. Local	\$.00	b. NO. <input type="checkbox"/> PROGRAM IS NOT COVERED BY E.O. 12372	
e. Other	\$.00	<input type="checkbox"/> OR PROGRAM HAS NOT BEEN SELECTED BY STATE FOR REVIEW	
f. Program Income	\$.00	17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT?	
g. TOTAL	\$ 878,020 .00	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes If "Yes," attach an explanation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION/PREAPPLICATION ARE TRUE AND CORRECT, THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN ONLY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICANT WILL COMPLY WITH THE ATTACHED ASSURANCES IF THE ASSISTANCE IS AWARDED			
a. Type Name of Authorized Representative Barbara Salzman		b. Title President	
c. Telephone Number (415)924-6057		d. Signature of Authorized Representative 	
e. Date Signed			

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Standard Form 424 (REV. 4-81)
Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

PART E: Certification Regarding Lobbying
Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements

CHECK IF CERTIFICATION IS FOR THE AWARD OF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING AND THE AMOUNT EXCEEDS \$100,000: A FEDERAL GRANT OR COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT, SUBCONTRACT, OR SUBGRANT UNDER THE GRANT OR COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT.

CHECK IF CERTIFICATION IS FOR THE AWARD OF A FEDERAL LOAN EXCEEDING THE AMOUNT OF \$150,000, OR A SUBGRANT OR SUBCONTRACT EXCEEDING \$100,000, UNDER THE LOAN.

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

- (1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, and officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
- (2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.
- (3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by Section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

As the authorized certifying official, I hereby certify that the above specified certifications are true.


SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL

Barbara Salzman, President, Marin Audubon Society

TYPED NAME AND TITLE

DATE

DI-2010
June 1995
(This form replaces DI-1953, DI-1954,
DI-1955, DI-1956 and DI-1957)

Figure 2
Standard Form 424A

BUDGET INFORMATION - Non-Construction Programs

OMB Approval No. 0348-0044

SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY						
Grant Program Function or Activity (a)	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number (b)	Estimated Unobligated Funds		New or Revised Budget		
		Federal (c)	Non-Federal (d)	Federal (e)	Non-Federal (f)	Total (g)
1. Acquisition		\$ 255,000	\$ 255,000	\$	\$	\$ 510,000
2. Plan/drawings		53,635	55,635			109,270
3. Administration			17,750			17,750
4. Construction				68,500	112,500	181,000
5. Totals		\$ 288,635	\$ 386,135	\$ 68,500	\$ 112,500	\$ 818,020 *
SECTION B - BUDGET CATEGORIES						
6. Object Class Categories	GRANT PROGRAM, FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY				Total (5)	
	(a) Acquisition	(b) Plan/drawing	(c) Administration	(d) Construction		
a. Personnel						
b. Fringe Benefits						
c. Travel						
d. Equipment						
e. Supplies						
f. Contractual		109,270	17,750		127,020	
g. Construction				181,000	181,000	
h. Other	510,000				510,000	
i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 6a-6h)						
j. Indirect Charges						
k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 818,020	
7. Program Income						
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 00	

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Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

* Note: The monitoring component will cost \$60,000, is being funded by Caltrans and is not reflected in this budget.

1-008913

1-008913

Figure 2
Standard Form 424A (cont'd.)

SECTION C - NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES				
(a) Grant Program	(b) Applicant	(c) State	(d) Other Sources	(e) TOTALS
8. Construction	\$ 22,000	\$ 90,500	\$	\$ 112,500
9. Plan/design/drawings		\$ 4,635	\$ 26,000*	\$ 30,635
10. Administration		\$ 17,750		\$ 17,750
11. Acquisition		\$ 355,000		\$ 355,000
12. TOTAL (sum of lines 8 - 11) **	\$ 22,000	\$ 417,385	\$ 26,000	\$ 445,385

SECTION D - FORECASTED CASH NEEDS					
	Total for 1st Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
13. Federal	\$ 283,635	\$	\$	\$	\$
14. NonFederal	\$ 353,385				
15. TOTAL (sum of lines 13 and 14)	\$ 637,020	\$	\$	\$	\$

SECTION E - BUDGET ESTIMATES OF FEDERAL FUNDS NEEDED FOR BALANCE OF THE PROJECT				
(a) Grant Program	FUTURE FUNDING PERIODS (Years)			
	(b) First	(c) Second	(d) Third	(e) Fourth
16. Construction	\$ 68,500	\$	\$	\$
17.				
18.				
19.				
20. TOTAL (sum of lines 16-19)	\$ 68,500	\$	\$	\$

SECTION F - OTHER BUDGET INFORMATION	
21. Direct Charges:	22. Indirect Charges:
23. Remarks:	

* contributed by the USFWS San Francisco Bay Program

* Note: The monitoring component (\$60) is being funded by Caltrans and is not reflected in this budget.

Figure 4
Standard Form 424C

BUDGET INFORMATION — Construction Programs			
NOTE: Certain Federal assistance programs require additional computations to arrive at the Federal share of project costs eligible for participation. If such is the case you will be notified.			
COST CLASSIFICATION	a. Total Cost	b. Costs Not Allowable for Participation	c. Total Allowable Costs (Column a-b)
1. Administrative and legal expenses	\$ 17,750 .00	\$.00	\$.00
2. Land, structures, rights-of-way, appraisals, etc.	\$ 510,000 .00	\$.00	\$.00
3. Relocation expenses and payments	\$.00	\$.00	\$.00
4. Architectural and engineering fees	\$ 109,270 .00	\$.00	\$.00
5. Other architectural and engineering fees	\$.00	\$.00	\$.00
6. Project inspection fees	\$ 30,000 .00	\$.00	\$.00
7. Site work	\$.00	\$.00	\$.00
8. Demolition and removal	\$.00	\$.00	\$.00
9. Construction	\$ 151,000 .00	\$.00	\$.00
10. Equipment	\$.00	\$.00	\$.00
11. Miscellaneous Monitoring	\$ 60,000 .00	\$.00	\$.00
12. SUBTOTAL (sum of lines 1-11)	\$ 878,020 .00	\$.00	\$.00
13. Contingencies	\$.00	\$.00	\$.00
14. SUBTOTAL	\$.00	\$.00	\$.00
15. Project (program) income	\$.00	\$.00	\$.00
16. TOTAL PROJECT COSTS (subtract #15 from #14)	\$ 878,020 .00	\$.00	\$.00
FEDERAL FUNDING			
17. Federal assistance requested. Calculate as follows: (Consult Federal agency for Federal percentage share). Enter the resulting Federal share.	Enter eligible costs from line 16c. Multiply X ____ %		\$.00

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Standard Form 424C (Rev. 4-92)
Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

1-008915

1-008915

In accordance with your instructions, we have effected insurance as follows:

1. **Insurer(s):** Reliance Insurance Company
Policy/Cert. #'s: NDA168864401
2. **Name of Insured:** Marin Audubon Society
3. **Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 599
Mill Valley, CA 94942-0599
4. **Binder Period:** 5/17/98 **To:** 7/17/98
12:01 AM Standard Time at above location(s)
5. **Coverage:** Nonprofit Directors & Officers Liability
6. **Limits:** \$1,000,000 each claim/annual aggregate
7. **Deductible:** \$1,000 each claim
8. **Policy Premium:** Premium \$1,260.00 + Broker Fee \$350.00

Binder Minimum: 25% fully earned at inception

9. **Policy Period:** 5/17/98 **To:** 5/17/99
12:01 AM Standard Time at above location(s)
10. **Other Conditions:** ALL TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS PER EXPIRING

11. **Subject To:** N/A

(Continued on Reverse Side)

Producer: McGee Thelen & Purves Insurance

**SHERWOOD INSURANCE
SERVICES**

Date of Issuance: May 4, 1998

By:



(Authorized Representative)



ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
3501 CIVIC CENTER DR., SUITE 329
SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA 94903-4197
TELEPHONE (415) 499-7331
FAX (415) 499-7345
TDD (415) 499-6172
FAX (415) 499-6172

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIN COUNTY

June 25, 1998

Lester Snow
Calfed Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1155
Sacramento, Ca 95814

Dear Mr. Snow:

The Marin County Board of Supervisors has formally supported and continues to support the application by the Marin Audubon Society for funds to acquire, restore and protect tidal marsh and diked baylands currently owned by Redwood Landfill in northeastern Marin County.

Acquisition and protection of wetlands and historic baylands, and of this site in particular, is a high priority for the Board. In addition to benefiting the Petaluma watershed and the San Francisco Bay, this project is a good example of a cooperative partnership between governmental agencies and a non-profit organization to achieve positive environmental goals.

The Marin Audubon Society has successfully implemented another enhancement project on wetlands owned by the Marin County Open Space District and another is planned for this summer. We would like to see more such efforts.

We hope the application will be evaluated favorably.

Sincerely,

John Kress, President
Marin County Board of Supervisors

<p>PRESIDENT JOHN KRESS SAN RAFAEL 1ST DISTRICT</p>	<p>• HAROLD C. BROWN SAN ANSELMO 2ND DISTRICT</p>	<p>• VICE-PRESIDENT ANNETTE ROSE SAUSALITO 3RD DISTRICT</p>	<p>• 2ND VICE-PRESIDENT STEVE KINSLEY SAN Geronimo 4TH DISTRICT</p>	<p>• HARRY J. MOORE NOVATO 5TH DISTRICT</p>	<p>CLERK MARTIN J. NICHOLS REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, 9 A.M.</p>
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Harry J. Moore
Fifth District Supervisor
Board of Supervisors
County of Marin

June 29, 1998

Lester Snow, Executive Director
CALFED BAY-DELTA PROGRAM
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: PETALUMA MARSH EXPANSION PROJECT - MARIN COUNTY

Dear Mr. Snow:

As Supervisor for the District in which the above project would occur, I am pleased to have the opportunity to express my support for this worthy project being undertaken by the Marin Audubon Society.

The Petaluma Marsh Expansion Project will restore 100 acres of diked land to tidal marsh and permanently protect the entire 181 acre site as part of the Petaluma Marsh Complex. The project will provide significantly expanded habitat for endangered and other special status species as well as migratory waterfowl and shorebirds.

I strongly recommend your favorable consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,


Harry J. Moore
Supervisor District Five

Suite 315 • 3501 Civic Center Dr. • San Rafael, California 94903-4163 • Telephone (415)499-7331 • FAX(415)499-3645

E-Mail: hmoore@midas.co.marlin.ca.us

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

BOX 23660

OAKLAND, CA 94623-0660

(510) 286-4444

TDD (510) 286-4454



June 26, 1988

Ms. Barbara Salzman
Marin Audubon Society
48 Ardmore Road
Larkspur, CA
94939

Subject: Petaluma Marsh Expansion Project - Marin County

Dear Ms. Salzman,

The California Department of Transportation, Caltrans, is writing this letter in support of your project for the restoration of approximately 100 acres of diked marshland adjacent to the Petaluma River Marsh Complex in Marin County.

Caltrans fully supports this project in its entirety as it will restore to full tidal influence approximately 100 acres of land which will, over time, become habitat for salt marsh harvest mouse, California Clapper Rail and many other animals and birds commonly found in North Bay saltmarsh habitats.

Caltrans will participate in the planning, funding, construction and monitoring of this project as part of its resource agency commitments associated with the seismic retrofit and widening of the Sonoma Creek Bridge on Highway 37.

If you have any questions, please call me at 510.286.5681.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

HARRY Y. YAHATA
District Director

By:

Chuck Morton
District Branch Chief
Office of Environmental Planning North
Biology Branch

SOUTHERN SONOMA COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
1301 REDWOOD WAY, SUITE 170 - PETALUMA, CA 94954
TELEPHONE: (707) 794-1242 FAX: (707) 794-7902

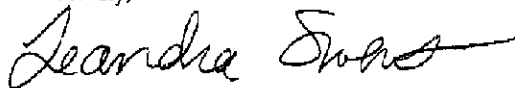
July 1, 1998

CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA. 95814

To Whom it May Concern,

The Southern Sonoma County Resource Conservation District supports the Audubon Society's request for funding for the Petaluma Marsh Expansion Project. We feel that the acquisition and restoration of this property would be a beneficial addition to restored marshes in the North Bay.

Sincerely,



Leandra Swent
District Manager

Southern Sonoma County Resource Conservation District: President- Tish Ward; Vice President- Paul Martin; Board Members- Maxine Durney, Mitch Mulas, James Ryan; Associate Directors- Susan Bianchi, Clarence Jenkins, Becky Jenkins, Bruce Ostertye.

MANAGEMENT BOARD:

Bay Area Audubon Council

Bay Area Open Space Council

*Bay Conservation &
Development Committee*

Bay Planning Coalition

*Bay Area Regional
Watershed Network*

*California Department
of Fish and Game*

*Chico's Committee to
Complete the Refuge*

Coastal Conservancy

*Coastal Erythra, Mangrove &
Yacht Canal Districts*

Duke University

National Audubon Society

*Northwest Fisheries Conservation
Service*

P G & E

*Regional Water Quality Control
Board, San Francisco Bay Region*

*San Jose Peninsula Bay
Association*

Shore Club

The Bay Institute

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Wildlife Conservation Board

June 29, 1998

Cindy Darling
Restoration Coordinator
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth St., Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Petaluma Marsh Expansion, Marin County

Dear Cindy:

The San Francisco Bay Joint Venture strongly supports the acquisition and restoration of the 180-acre Petaluma Marsh site in Marin County. The parcel is located within the 2,000 acre Petaluma Marsh and will restore tidal marsh to 109 acres that are currently diked. The Joint Venture has worked closely with Marin Audubon as the project was developed.

The California Coastal Conservancy, US Fish and Wildlife Service and Caltrans will be providing more than half of the total project cost of \$736,000. Barbara Salzman of Marin Audubon, is donating her time to manage the project. The California Department of Fish and Game has expressed interest in managing the property as part of its current holdings in the Petaluma Marsh.

The restoration of this site will provide important seasonal and tidal habitat in the upper reaches of the Petaluma River watershed, meeting CALFED's ecosystem restoration goals. This restoration will benefit numerous fish and wildlife species including spring run chinook salmon, steelhead, Sacramento splittail, green sturgeon, striped bass, longfin smelt and migratory waterfowl and shorebirds.

We encourage you to support the acquisition and restoration of the Petaluma Marsh in Marin County.

Sincerely,

Nancy Schaefer
Nancy Schaefer
Coordinator

Cc: SFBIV Management Board



Trout Unlimited of California

June 29, 1998

Mr. Lester Snow
Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, cal 95814

Re: Pctaluma Marsh Expansion Project—Marin County.


Dear Mr. Snow:

Trout Unlimited has a special interest in the restoration of California's salmon and steelhead trout fishery. Many of our 8000 California members are involved in "hands on" restoration projects throughout the state.

We have reviewed the Marsh Expansion Project description and were impressed with the ecosystem and fishery benefits. The restoration and permanently protecting the marsh will greatly improve the water quality in the San Pablo and San Francisco Bays. This area is well recognized as a nursery area for the outgoing Sacramento and San Joaquin River juvenile salmon and steelhead. The improved water quality will enhance their survival on their journey to the ocean.

As America's leading coldwater fisheries conservation organization, we strongly recommend your approval of the project and will be looking forward to your accomplishing your mission to double the natural spawning anadromous fishery of the Central Valley.

Respectfully



Stan Griffin
Regional Vice-President
Southwest Region

828 San Pablo Ave., #244, Albany, CA 94706-1603 • Phone 510-528-5390 • Fax 510-528-7880

Protecting and Improving Your Fishing Future



THE ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM OF MARIN
P.O. BOX 74
LARKSPUR, CA 94977
TELEPHONE: (415) 479-7814

A NON-PROFIT CITIZEN GROUP DEVOTED TO EDUCATION IN MARIN COUNTY ON ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS.

June 29, 1994

Cindy Darling
Calfed Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: PETALUMA MARSH EXPANSION PROJECT

Dear Ms Darling:

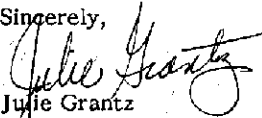
The Environmental Forum of Marin is pleased to write in support of the Marin Audubon Society's application for the Petaluma Marsh Expansion project.

It seems to us that this is exactly the type of project Calfed should be funding. It will remove levees that were constructed just 30 years ago. This will allow the tides to inundate the site again, and naturally restore this historic tidal marsh that once existed there. The project will benefit many fish and wildlife species that depend on the Petaluma Marsh, the waters of San Antonio Creek, the Petaluma Marsh and Petaluma River watershed, and the Bay and Delta.

The Marin Audubon Society has a worthy history of implementing marsh enhancement projects, and the list of partners is impressive.

We strongly urge funding for this worthy project.

Sincerely,


Julie Grantz
President

Marin Baylands Advocates

P.O. Box 415, Larkspur, California 94977

June 29, 1998

Lester Snow, Executive Director
CalFed Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: PETALUMA MARSH EXPANSION PROJECT

Dear Mr. Snow:

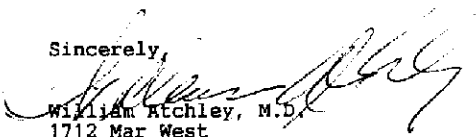
The Marin Baylands Advocates wishes to convey its support for the Petaluma Marsh Expansion project which will restore to tidal action over 100 acres of baylands that were diked about 30 years ago, and protect in perpetuity Over 180 acres along San Antonio Creek in the Petaluma River Watershed.

This proejct will enhance the Petaluma River Watershed and will directly benefit many species of native fish and birds. We believe this is an action that should be acted upon now. We don't often have a willing seller and hence the opportunity to restore large acreage with such widespread support and cooperative effort.

The Mission of the Marin Baylands Advocates is to protect and restore baylands that in Marin County. This project will certainly fulfill this goal and we urge approval of funding.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



William Ritchley, M.D.
1712 Mar West
Tiburon, CA 94920